

life and associating freely with the male members of it in work, religion, play, etc., the slavery is of a very light type and implies no hardship for the slave.

277. Slavery in North America among savages. Slavery is believed to have existed amongst the Indians of Virginia. " They made war, not for land or goods, but for women and children, whom they put not to death, but made them do service." <sup>1</sup> The young men and slaves worked in the fields of the Mississippi valley. The latter were not overworked.<sup>2</sup> The Algonquins made slaves of their prisoners, especially of the women and children.<sup>3</sup> The Illinois are represented as an intermediate party who got slaves in the South and sold them in the West.<sup>4</sup> The Wisconsin tribes used to make captives of Pawnees, Osages, Missouris, and Mandans. When Pawnees were such captives (slaves) they were treated with severity.<sup>5</sup> In the Gulf region of North America slavery was common from the earliest times. That slaves might not escape, a sinew in the leg was cut, by the Six Nations.<sup>6</sup> On the northwestern coast of North America slavery was far more developed than east of the Rocky Mountains. In Oregon and Washington slavery was interwoven with the social polity. Slaves were also harshly treated, as property, not within the limits of humanity. For a man to kill a half dozen of his own slaves was a sign of generous magnanimity on his part. One tribe stole captives from its weaker neighbors. Hence the slave trade is an important part of the commerce of all the tribes up to Alaska.<sup>7</sup> In 1841 it was reckoned that one third of the entire population from northern British Columbia to southern Alaska were " slaves of the most helpless and abject description." " The great supply was obtained by trade with the southern Indians, in which the Tsimshian acted as middlemen. They were kidnapped or captured by the southern Indians from their own adjacent tribes and sold to the Tsimshian, who traded them to the northern Thlinkit and interior Thine' tribes for furs." " Slaves did all the drudgery, fished for their owner, strengthened his force in war, were not allowed to hold property or to marry, and when old and worthless were killed. The master's power was unlimited." The slave must commit any crime at the

command of the master. The slaves were set free at some ceremonies, but they were put to death at the funerals of chiefs, or as foundation sacrifices, or in reparation for insults or wrongs. The northern Indians were more warlike and would not make good slaves. The Oregon flatheads were docile and industrious.<sup>8</sup> The Chinooks became the wealthiest tribe in the region by acting as middlemen to sell war captives taken inland as far from home

<sup>1</sup> *Smithson. Rep.*, 1891, 524. Cf. Hostmann, *De Beschaving van Negersin Amer.*,

I, Chap. IV. <sup>2</sup> *Smithson. Rep.*, 1891, 525.

<sup>3</sup> *Ibid.*, 520. <sup>6</sup> *Bur. Ethnol.*, XIV, 35. <sup>1</sup> *J. ^ jgSy*, Part II, 331.

\* *Ibid.*, 532. <sup>6</sup> *Smithson. Rep.*, 1891, 528. <sup>8</sup> *U. S. Nat. Mus.*, 1888, 252 ff